

Electronic Communications Coordinator

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Goals

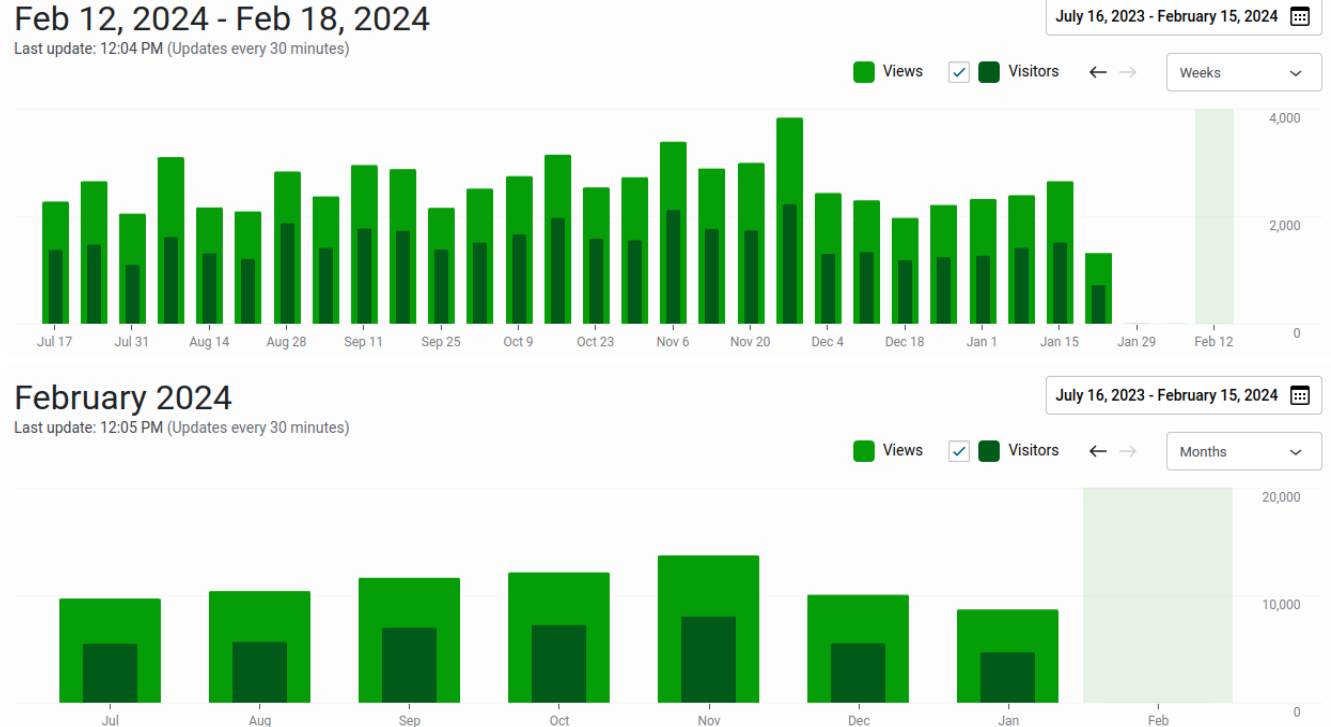
The Region 8 Electronic Communication Coordinator’s job is to facilitate communication, both between members of the Region 8 Committee and between this committee and present or future IEEE members.

What is involved:

1. Supporting technically and administratively the committee meetings.
2. Performing content updates to our web server.
3. Managing access rights to the various systems we administrate.
4. Performing security and other feature updates to our web server.
5. Maintaining and updating our mailing distribution lists.
6. Creating new OU's websites at our web server and supporting their initial steps.
7. Supporting the chairs and appointed members during online meetings.
8. Creating custom pages at our website to perform custom functionalities.
9. Performing bug fixes caused by updates to our web server.
10. Investigating new technologies.
11. Developing tools as needed (e.g., the on-screen timer adopted by IEEE and is used at the board of directors; it was developed by us by our own initiative).
12. Investigate Cybersecurity issues.

Progress against goals since the last report

Website statistics from JetPack:



Website and Mailing Lists

The Region 8 website and mailing lists have been updated to reflect the current structure of the R8 committee. These updates ensure accurate information, transparency, and improved engagement. However, please note that certain changes are still pending approval before implementation.

New IEEE R8 SAC website

The recently launched IEEE Region 8 Student Activities Committee (SAC) website has been successfully deployed on a shared server provided by IEEE. Throughout this process, we actively facilitated communication with the vTools staff as necessary to ensure smooth integration and operation.

IEEEDuino contest

Our team has been providing comprehensive support to the organizing committee of the IEEEDuino competition, encompassing both the management of the competition's website and the maintenance of the mail server. This support includes technical assistance, ensuring the smooth operation of the website, and reliable email communication, facilitating efficient interaction among participants, organizers, and stakeholders.

ieeer8.org template

Our website has been utilizing a custom-built child theme derived from a widely recognized parent theme. However, following recent updates, we encountered compatibility issues with the latest version of the parent theme. To address this, we undertook a comprehensive rewrite of our child theme to align with the updated features and standards. During this process, we also seized the opportunity to streamline our website's functionality by removing outdated features and custom-developed functionalities that were previously designed for the committee but are no longer in use. This not only ensured compatibility with the new version of the theme but also enhanced the overall efficiency and performance of our website.

Clicker support software

In our most recent gathering in Ottawa, it came to our attention that the clicker support software experienced malfunctions following a recent update to the operating system on the hosting computer. To address this issue, we undertook a targeted rewrite of specific segments of the software to ensure full compatibility with the newest operating system version. Our priority was to maintain both the updated and secure status of the operating system, necessitating these software adjustments. This proactive approach ensured that the system remained both current in terms of security standards and fully functional to support our needs.

On Screen Watch

Our essential meeting tool, designed to display the timer on-screen, encountered operational issues subsequent to the latest updates to the Java Runtime Environment (JRE) on the host computer. Despite our efforts to rebuild the JAR files with the latest Java Development Kit (JDK), we were unable to restore full functionality to all features. Faced with the incompatibility of the older version (version 3), we decided to undertake a comprehensive redevelopment of the project, culminating in the creation of version 4. This new iteration was developed using Java again, yet it strategically omits all libraries and dependencies that previously led to the issues encountered in version 3. The version set to be deployed at the upcoming meeting is currently in a pre-release state, successfully integrating most functionalities found in version 3. While further development is necessary to enhance features and refine the code, we have ensured that all critical functionalities required for the forthcoming meeting are fully operational.